Road-Over-Bridge in Mumbai

1216. SHRI R.K. KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a long-term public demand for a new Road-Over-Bridge(ROB), South of Ghatkopar Railway Station in Mumbai;

(b) whether it is also a fact that new Municipal Corporation of Brihan Mumbai has deposited the requisite funds with the Railways for starting the project;

(c) when the work on the bridge is likely to be started and get completed; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Municipal Corporation of Brihan Mumbai has deposited Rs. 40 lakh as 1st instalment of the Estimated cost of Rs. 175.9 lakh.

(c) and (d) Brihan Muncipal Corporation had proposed for widening of the existing Road Over Bridge near Ghatkopar at Km 18/15-16. It is an additional Road Over Bridge being constructed as a widening of the existing ROB, tenders for which will be opened in Dec. 97 and is likely to be completed by June, 1999.

Mega projects of the Railways

1217. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 50 percent of mega projects of the railways are languishing for want of funds;

(b) if so, whether sanctioning of new projects is the primary reasons for adversely affecting the progress of the ongoing projects; and

(c) the steps taken to maintain the commissioning schedule of the aforesaid mega projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present there are only four Mega Projects on Indian Railways. Their position is as follows:

(1) *Metro Rail, Calcutta*

The project has almost been completed. Only residual works remain.

(2) *Konkan Railway*

The project is about to complete. Some minor issues and a small portion of the tunnelling work remains.

(3) *FOIS (Freight Operations Information System)*

This project is behind schedule. Hence a committee comprising of Professors from Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi was entrusted consultancy. Report of the committee has been received and a revised action plan has been initiated.

(4) *Construction of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramula Rail Line*

It is a new project, sanctioned only in 1995.

Open tenders for wagons

1218. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Railways have charged the Ministry of Railways for committing contempt of the House by bypassing the Standing Committee by inviting open tenders for wagons appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 14th October, 1997;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to follow the guidelines set by the Standing Committee and requisite percentage of orders is being placed through Wagon India Ltd.; and

(c) if not, the reasons for this deviation from the guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) The newspaper report perhaps refers to the 12th report of the Standing Committee on Railways. This report is under examination.

Rail Ticket Racket

1219. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a racket involving some authorised travel agents was recently discovered in Delhi in which the signature of Members of Parliament were forged to acquire railway tickets; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken against the persons concerned?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) An instance of securing reservation on a fake letter on the letter head of an M.P. for release of 3 sleeper class berths in favour of a party travelling from New Delhi to Vadodara by 2472 Swaraj Express on 27.9.97 has come to notice recently on a sample check. The suspected person was apprehended and handed over to the local police for further action. A show Cause Notice has also been issued for termination of the licence of the authorised Rail Travellers' Service Agent suspected to be involved in this case.

पश्चिम रेलवे के अंतर्गत मुंबई के महाप्रबंधक को सांसदों से पत्र

1220. **श्री चीमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ला:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पश्चिम रेलवे के अंतर्गत मुंबई के महाप्रबंधक द्वारा सांसदों तथा क्षेत्रीय परामर्शदात्री समिति के सदस्यों से प्राप्त पत्रों पर विगत छः माह के दौरान क्या-क्या कार्यवाही की गई है;

(ख) उन्हें किन-किन संदर्भों में ये पत्र प्राप्त हुए हैं और इसका विभाग-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) महाप्रबंधक ने संबंधित प्रभागीय प्रबंधकों को इन पत्रों के आधार पर क्या-क्या आदेश जारी किए हैं;

(घ) क्या मंत्रालय द्वारा सांसदों के पत्रों की पावती देने की कोई समय-सीमा निर्धारित की गई है; और

(ङ) क्या महाप्रबंधक और प्रभागीय प्रबंधकों द्वारा इसका अनुपालन किया जाता है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): (क) से (ङ) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Railway Convention Committee's Recommendation

1221. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the high level Parliamentary Committee Railway Convention Committee (VII) had given several recommendations regarding modification in the service conditions/promotional prospects of Group 'B' officers of Indian Railways;

(b) if so, how many such recommendations were made and how many of them have been accepted and implemented; and

(c) by when the same are proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) The four recommendations made in this regard are under consideration.

Regularisation of contract workers in Southern Division

1222. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation towards regularisation of services of 125 contract labourers engaged for loading and unloading of coal from the steam engines in Trichy division of Southern Railway;